

## **Competitive Rowing: Errors and the Unexpected Synopsis**

A study of the unusual side of rowing. The exhibit is divided into two sections. The first section is errors by stamp designers and section two shows rowers involved in unexpected races. Most design errors occurred because the designers had limited knowledge of the sport. I have been rowing competitively for over fifty years and qualified to spot mistakes in design. Also during this period I have become aware of unusual races.

Section I covers errors in four main areas. The most common is the incorrect position of the rower during the four phases of a stroke: start, drive, finish and recovery. A correct position is shown for each phase to better understand when an error had been made in design. The second most common errors are because designers did not understand the seat slides so a rower can drive legs downward to propel the boat. A printing missing color error is covered in one example. (p.4)

Section II covers the unusual races that have occur at majors regattas. The most common is amazing athletic feats. A rower or team at a distinct handicap has overcome these odds to win. The second most unexpected races is how weather has effected key races.

TREATMENT: To see errors, the phases of a rower's motion are covered early in the exhibit with correct and incorrect comparisons. The theme has balance between design errors and rower oddities. Within each section, multiple philatelic elements are presented. The text strives to be brief but informative. The conclusion reminds viewers how design errors could have been avoided and also to watch for oddities in this sport in the future.

KNOWLEDGE AND RESEARCH: In addition to rowing at a major college, I have also coached and refereed rowers. It has taken over ten years to find the correct philatelic examples to illustrate the errors and the unexpected. (p.2) Polish 1955 trial color with expertization mark, Korea 1961 artist drawing with postal chop; (p.3) San Marino 1960 artist drawing; (p.5) and East Germany 1968 progressive proof are some examples of good match of thematic research with philatelic elements. While serving in leadership positions at Sports Philatelists International and ATA ships on stamps Unit, I have gained a network of knowledgeable collectors to guide my research for this exhibit.

RARITY AND CONDITION: Many of the cancels and postal stationary are not rare but took years to locate worldwide. (p.10) RMS Umbria 1888 ships mail and (p.4) Romania 1937 paper crease are good examples of philatelic elements that match theme. Condition is without flaw for the period covered.

PRESENTATION: Neat and clean. Uniform heading and fonts. Thematic text generally above. Philatelic information, when applicable is in italic and below. Variety in page layout with largest element at bottom on most pages. No overcrowding on pages.

REFERENCES: <http://www.usrowing.org>  
<http://www.rowinghistory.net/index>  
<http://www.worldrowing.com/fisa/.../training>  
<http://www.sportstamps.org>  
<http://www.shipsonstamps.org/Pubs/Pubs-index.html>  
<http://rowmag.com/site/>  
<http://rrm.co.uk>  
Rowing Faster, by Volker Nolte

The exhibit does not reply on Wikipedia because information can be incorrect.

This is the fourth time Competitive Rowing has been placed in competition. I received a vermeil and AAPE creativity award at Colopex 2016. My Competitive Sailing exhibit has won numerous national level golds.